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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Patent Application S.N. 08/140,230

Title: A LOCAL AREA NETWORK FOR SIMULTANEOUS, BI-DIRECTIONAL TRANSMISSION OF VIDEO BANDWIDTH SIGNALS

Inventor: Fenouil

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Attorney Docket No.: LLD.100

D. Harvey
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on January 25, 1994. Name Renee Y. Muench
Signature Renee Y. Muench Date 1/25/94

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This information disclosure statement should have been filed by January 20, 1994. We were working toward a timely filing of this information disclosure statement when we were hit with sixteen inches of snow and temperatures of -23°F, breaking all the records for Louisville and effectively shutting down the city for a week. We were just able to get back to work yesterday. We hope the Patent Office will excuse our delay in filing the information disclosure statement under these circumstances.

Enclosed are a form listing references pertaining to the present invention and copies of the listed references.

U.S. Patent 4,292,475 "Hill" shows a telephone intercom system in which all the stations share the same eight links. This is a form of a bus. There is no switching matrix to provide channel segmentation.

U.S. Patent 4,628,437 "Poschmann" is a digital system using a cascaded bus. There is no switching.

U.S. Patent 4,640,989 "Riner" shows a switching arrangement for interconnecting voice and data lines with a single computer.

U.S. Patent 4,652,873 "Dolsen" shows a bus which uses digital time-sharing.

U.S. Patent 4,686,698 "Tompkins" shows a network similar to Figure 2 in the present patent application, which is labelled "Prior Art".

U.S. Patent 4,726,054 "Molnar" is an audio communication system between two groups of users. The communications artery is not extended through a switching block.

U.S. Patent 4,740,956 "Hailpern" shows a star topology. All the ports are connected to the same node. This is for broadcast.

U.S. Patent 4,742,515 "Dabholkar" shows the conversion of analog signals to digital signals. There is no network.

U.S. Patent 4,744,078 "Kowalczyk" shows a system for transferring data between two buses. It is only a digital system. There is no matrix architecture and no analog switching system.

U.S. Patent 4,792,941 "Yanosy" shows a digital transfer system.

U.S. Patent 4,885,569 "Lellouche" has a bus with no capability of channel segmentation to define upstream and downstream.

U.S. Patent 4,918,516 "Freeman" uses a star topology type of distribution, similar to cable television. There is no matrix switching.

U.S. Patent 4,949,170 "Yanagidaira" is a one-direction system for video broadcasting.

U.S. Patent 4,955,048 "Iwamura" is not a network or a switching system. It uses multiplexing of signals.

U.S. Patent 4,977,449 "Morgan" uses a common bus without a switching system.

U.S. Patent 5,107,256 "Ueno" does not describe a switching system. It shows a digitally-controlled bus.

The German reference describes a system for voice and data.
Its switching system does not define upstream and downstream.

Respectfully Submitted,

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